CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for conducting a conference call between two or more participants, comprising:

receiving an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call who has previously received speech from another participant of the conference call;

in response to the indication from the participant, converting any speech of the other participants of the conference call into text; and

sending the text to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received, the device operable to display the text.

2.   (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1, and~~ A method for conducting a conference call between two or more participants, comprising:

receiving an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call;

in response to the indication from the participant, converting any speech of the other participants of the conference call into text;

sending the text to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received, the device operable to display the text; and

further comprising sending the identity of each participant of the conference call to the device, wherein the identity is associated with the text associated with the speech of each participant.

3.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising encrypting the text.

4.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising sending to the device the speech corresponding to the text.

5.   (Original)   The method of Claim 4, wherein the text comprises a timestamp, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

6.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising recording the text at the device.

7.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant placing the conference call on hold.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant muting the call.

9.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a button is depressed on a telephone associated with the participant requesting text.

10.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a soft key associated with the participant requesting text is depressed.

11.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant requesting text.

12.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets from the participant requesting text.

13.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising converting any speech of the participant requesting text into text.

14.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, and further comprising alerting the participant requesting text that a specific one of the other participants is speaking.

15.   (Original)   A method for conducting a conference call with a plurality of participants, comprising:

determining the identity of each participant providing input to the conference call;

receiving an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call; and

in response to receiving the indication of a request for text from the participant, sending the identity of each other participant of the conference call, when the respective other participant is speaking, to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received, the device operable to display the identity of each participant.

16.   (Original)   The method of Claim 15, and further comprising converting, in response to the indication of a request for text, any speech of each other participant of the conference call into text and sending the text to the device, the text associated with the identity of each participant.

17.   (Original)   The method of Claim 16, and further comprising encrypting the text.

18.   (Original)   The method of Claim 16, and further comprising sending to the device the speech associated with the text.

19.   (Original)   The method of Claim 18, wherein the text comprises a timestamp, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

20.   (Original)   The method of Claim 19, and further comprising recording the text and the speech corresponding to the text at the device.

21.   (Original)   The method of Claim 20, wherein recording the text and speech comprises recording the speech and text at the device.

22.   (Original)   The method of Claim 20, wherein recording the text and speech comprises recording the speech and text within a central storage unit attached to the network.

23.   (Original)   The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant placing the conference call on hold.

24.   (Original)   The method of claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant muting the call.

25.   (Original)   The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a button is depressed on a telephone associated with the participant requesting text.

26.   (Original)   The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a soft key associated with the participant requesting text is depressed.

27.   (Original)   The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant requesting text.

28.   (Original)   The method of Claim 15, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that the participant requesting text is suppressing transmission of voice media packets from the participant requesting text.

29.   (Original)   The method of Claim 15, and further comprising sending the identity of the participant requesting text, when the participant requesting test is speaking, to the device.

30. (Currently Amended) A system for conducting a conference call with a plurality of participants, comprising:

a conference bridge operable to receive an indication of a request for text from at least one of the participants who has previously received speech from another one of the plurality of participants during the conference call, and in response to the indication, send text that represents speech of one or more of the participants to the participant who requested text; and

a speech-to-text engine coupled to the conference bridge, the engine operable to convert the speech of the one or more participants into the text and send the text to the conference bridge.

31. (Original) The system of Claim 30, wherein the conference bridge is operable to determine an identity of each participant of the conference call and send the identity to the participant making the request for text, each identity associated with the corresponding text that represents the speech of each participant.

32. (Original) The system of Claim 30, and further comprising an encryption engine coupled to the conference bridge.

33. (Original) The system of Claim 30, wherein the conference bridge is operable to send the speech of each participant, with the text, to the participant who requested text.

34. (Original) The system of Claim 33, wherein the conference bridge is operable to couple a timestamp with the text, then send the text to the participant who requested text, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

35. (Original) The system of Claim 30, and further comprising a device associated with the participant, the device comprising a storage media.

36. (Original) The system of Claim 35, wherein the device is a text display screen coupled to an Internet Protocol phone.

37.   (Original)   The system of Claim 35, wherein the device is a computer.

38.   (Original)   The system of Claim 30, wherein the indication of a request for text from at least one of the participants further indicates that the participant is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant.

39.   (Original)   The system of Claim 30, wherein the conference bridge and the speech-to-text engine are each operable to be responsive to a concurrent reservation request.

40.   (Currently Amended) A system for conducting a conference call, comprising:

a conference management means for receiving an indication of a request for text from at least one participant who has previously received speech from another one of the plurality of participants during the conference call, and in response to the indication, sending text that represents speech of each participant to the participant who requested text; and

a speech-to-text conversion means coupled to the conference bridge, the speech-to-text conversion means for converting the speech of each participant into the text and sending the text to the conference management means.

41.   (Original)   The system of Claim 38, and further comprising a means for associating an identity of each participant of the conference call with each participant's input to the conference call, and coupling the identity to the corresponding text, the means coupled to the conference management means.

42.   (Original)   The system of Claim 38, and further comprising a communication means for listening to the speech, the communication means coupled to the display means.

43.   (Original)   The system of Claim 38, wherein the conference management means is also for transmitting the speech to the communication means.

44.   (Original)   The system of Claim 41, wherein the conference management means is also for coupling a timestamp with the text, then transmitting the text to the display means, the timestamp associating the text with the speech corresponding to the text.

45.   (Original)   The system of Claim 42, and further comprising a storage means for recording the text and the speech, the storage means coupled to the communication means.

46.   (Original)   The system of Claim 38, wherein the indication of a request for text from at least one of the participants further indicates that the participant is suppressing transmission of voice media packets to the participant.

47.   (Original)   A method for displaying information comprising:
transmitting a request for data from an Internet Protocol telephone attached to a network and having a first address; and
receiving data at an Internet Protocol display attached to the network and having a second address different from the first address in response to the transmitted request.

48.   (Original)   The method of Claim 47, wherein the data comprises text.

49.   (Original)   The method of Claim 47, and further comprising associating the Internet Protocol telephone with the Internet Protocol display.

50.   (Original)   The method of Claim 49, wherein the associating comprises associating the Internet Protocol telephone with the Internet Protocol display by a system directory attached to the network.

51.   (Currently Amended) A method for conducting a conference call between two or more participants, comprising:

receiving, at a telephone, an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call using the telephone <u>who has previously received speech from one of the other two or more participants of the conference call during the conference call</u>;

in response to the indication, automatically transmitting from the telephone to a speech-to-text engine any speech received at the phone; and

receiving at the telephone from the speech-to-text engine text indicative of the received speech.

52.   (Original)   The method of Claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant placing the conference call on hold.

53.   (Original)   The method of claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to a participant muting the call.

54.   (Original)   The method of Claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a button is depressed on a telephone associated with the participant requesting text.

55.   (Original)   The method of Claim 51, wherein the indication of a request for text comprises an indication that a soft key associated with the participant requesting text is depressed.

56. (New) A method for conducting a conference call between two or more participants, comprising:

receiving an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call;

in response to the indication from the participant, converting any speech of the other participants of the conference call into text;

sending the text to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received, the device operable to display the text; and

wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to an action selected from the group consisting of a participant placing the conference call on hold and a participant muting the call.

57. (New) A method for conducting a conference call between two or more participants, comprising:

receiving, at a telephone, an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call using the telephone;

in response to the indication, automatically transmitting from the telephone to a speech-to-text engine any speech received at the phone;

receiving at the telephone from the speech-to-text engine text indicative of the received speech; and

wherein the indication of a request for text is received in response to an action selected from the group consisting of a participant placing the conference call on hold and a participant muting the call.

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on May 6, 2005. Claims 1-55 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-55 are rejected in this Office Action. Applicants amend Claims 1, 2, 30, 40 and 51 and add new Claims 56 and 57. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-55 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,501,739 to Cohen (*"Cohen"*). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 15 is allowable at least because the cited reference does not show "in response to receiving the indication of a request for text from the participant, sending the identity of each other participant of the conference call, when the respective other participant is speaking, to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received . . . ." Rather, *Cohen* involves a conference calling system that does not send the identity of a participant when the participant is speaking, in response to a request for text. In particular, *Cohen* states at Column 8, lines 4-6, that "the system is preferably configured to indicate to each participant, vocally and/or visually . . . the status of the other participants." *Cohen* describes that example states are ONLINE, BUSY, SLEEP and STANDBY, none of which involve the identity of a participant when speaking. Column 7, line 65 – Column 8, line 4. Notably absent from *Cohen* is any description of the sending of the identity of each other participant of the conference call when the respective other participant is speaking.

Further absent is any disclosure that such sending of the identity of each other participant occurs "in response to receiving the indication of a request for text from a participant." To the extent the status information is sent in *Cohen* (which is not the identity of a participant when the participant is speaking) it appears that status information is sent independent of any request for text. In particular, *Cohen* does not describe any association between sending this status information and the requesting of text. Further, the statement in *Cohen* at Column 8, lines 56-67 that a command

entered by a DTMF tone may include a parameter identifying the communication from which the command originator does not disclose "in response to receiving the indication of a request for text from the participant, sending the identity of each other participant of the conference call, when the respective other participant is speaking, to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received . . ." Rather, it merely discloses that a parameter may identify who communicated a command.

In rejecting Claim 15, the Office Action refers to the <u>status</u> information described above (Column 8, lines 4-28) and the DTMF tone command parameter as allegedly disclosing "in response to receiving the indication of a request for text from the participant, sending the identity of each other participant of the conference call, when the respective other participant is speaking, to a device associated with the participant from which the indication of a request for text was received . . . ." But these passages clearly fail to disclose this limitation for the reasons described above.

The rejection of Claim 15 is therefore clearly improper and if maintained would constitute a clear error, as referred to in the July 12, 2005 Official Gazette Notice regarding New Pre-Approval Brief Conference Pilot Program, and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal. For at least these reasons, Claim 15 is allowable, as are the claims depending therefrom. Claim 2 is allowable for analogous reasons. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Claim 47 is allowable at least because the cited reference fails to show

> transmitting a request for data from an Internet Protocol telephone attached to a network and having a first address; and
> receiving data at an Internet Protocol display attached to the network and having a second address different from the first address in response to the transmitted request.

Rather, *Cohen* merely shows a communication system that includes a phone and a computer. *Cohen* does not disclose transmitting a request from an IP telephone for data and receiving data at an Internet Protocol display having an address that is different from the address of the IP telephone in response. *Cohen* simply makes no mention of an IP display and an IP phone having separate addresses and receiving data at one in response to a request by the other. In rejecting this claim the Office

Action merely states "Cohen discloses the system, wherein the device is a text display screen coupled to an Internet Protocol phone (communications 10) (Fig. 1 and Col. 8, lines 35-60)," but those portions of *Cohen* simply do not disclose the above limitations, as described above. For at least this reason, Claim 47 is allowable, as are the claims depending therefrom. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

New Claim 56 is allowable at least because the cited reference fails to show converting any speech of the other participants into text in response to a participant placing the conference call on hold or muting the call. In rejecting original Claims 7 and 8, the Office Action asserts that such limitations are shown by *Cohen*, but this is incorrect. The cited portions of *Cohen* refer merely to providing additional <u>audio</u> sources when a call is placed on hold or converting audio to text messages, but not <u>converting speech into text in response to placing a call on hold or muting the call</u>. For at least this reason, new Claim 56 is allowable. New Claim 57 is allowable for analogous reasons. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Claim 1, as amended, is allowable at least because the cited reference fails to disclose the combination of the following two limitations:

> receiving an indication of a request for text from a cparticipant of the conference call who has previously received speech from another participant of the conference call;

> in response to the indication from the participant, converting any speech of the other participants of the conference call into text

Rather, *Cohen* merely discloses that servers 22 "preferably includes conventional hardware and/or software to support convert [sic] audio messages into text messages that may then be provided to conference participants . . . ." But the simple existence of the capability of converting text to speech does not disclose that such conversion occurs in response to an indication of a request for text from a participant of the conference call who has previously received speech from another participant of the call. Nor would it be obvious to modify *Cohen* to do so. Absent the teachings of Applicants' disclosure, Applicants respectfully submit that one would not request text after first receiving speech, but would rather select either text or speech, possibly based on one's hearing ability. In contrast, the teachings of the invention recognize

that one may want, in one embodiment, to selectively passively monitor a conference call by receiving text while engaging in other activities. See *Applicants' Disclosure* at Page 10, line 10 – Page 11, line 18.

For at least this reason, Claim 1 is allowable, as are all claims depending therefrom. Claims 30, 40, and 51 are allowable for analogous reasons, as are all claims depending therefrom. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.